REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 24, 2009 the Examiner noted that claims 1-18 were pending and rejected claims 1-18. Claim 1 has been amended only as to form, no claims have been canceled, no claim has been added and, thus, in view of the foregoing claims 1-18 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kametani, U.S. Patent No. 7,283,537. The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection with an argument.

Kametani discusses a network system and a packet data transmission method, and more particularly to a network system and a packet data transmission method which even in the case where packet data is transmitted from a user terminal to a network to perform the receipt of orders for products or the like, ordering of products or the like, or the settlement thereof between the user terminal and a plurality of service providers or the like, can realize the unification of connection between the user terminal and the plurality of service providers and the unified management of business routine and accounting,

The present application as embodied in the claims relates to a system and method for enabling, in a system comprising a plurality of service providers and a plurality of network providers, for a network provider to manage information for supplying network services in a network. The invention as embedded in the claims is based on the idea that a control system receives an order service provider. The control system places the order at a network provider and registers information related to the order in registers. The registers can be located within, or outside the telecommunication network. The product that corresponds to the order from the service provider is delivered, regardless of the network technology used by the network provider.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Office asserts that Kametani, Fig. 3; col. 1, lines 26-35; col. 3, lines 43-54; and col. 4, lines 4-30 discloses "a plurality of network providers, any service provider of the plurality of service providers ***orders a product at any network provider*** of the plurality of network providers and ***enables the network provider to manage information for delivering said product in a telecommunication network to the service provider,***" as in claim 1.

However, Kametani, col. 4, lines 18 -30 states

> According to this system, based on information recorded in the servers, ***the servers unitarily manage account information required in services to users*** and, in addition. execute alternative account billing to the users. Therefore, the window of the entry into and

> withdrawal from a plurality of service providers or online entrepreneurs, billing of charge, and ***payment of charge is unified.*** This can simplify business routine and transaction and can reduce transaction cost on the user side. Further, ***since connection between a plurality of service providers or online entrepreneurs and users is performed through only an IP network, the line can be unified and, in addition, connection to service providers can be facilitated.*** [Emphasis added]

Thus, what Kametani a server that manages account information, not any other entity in the next work as the server unitarily manages account information. Further, the server is not at the service provider. Thus, it cannot be said that Kametani enables the network provider to manage information for delivering said product in a telecommunication network to the service provider.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Office asserts that Kametani, Fig. 3; col. 1, lines 5-15; and col. 8, line 49 through col. 9, line 4 discloses "means arranged to register a product type order, from a service provider, at a network provider," as in claim 1.

However, Kametani col. 1, lines 5-15 describes a system, where the user places and order, not the service provider. Further, Kametani col. 8, line 49 through col. 9, line 4 discusses the accounting and conversion of data sent to a service provide or from a service provide, however it does not discuss the order placed by the service provider.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Office asserts that Kametani, col. 7, line 48 through col. 8, line 38; and col. 8, lines 59-67 disclose "means arranged to create and register an

order based on said product type order from the service provider," as in claim 1.

However, Kametani, col. 7, line 48-60 states

> For example, an enterprise as the end user accesses the IP network 1 through the user terminal 7 and the access gateway 2. ***The end user 14 contracts with individual service providers for the provision of services through network service providers according to the type of distribution of information involved,*** for example, in business corporation s activities. The platform of VPN actually utilized is generally different according to the line of business. For example, the estimate of products, the receipt of orders for products, the ordering of products and the like are performed through the service provider network 8, and the settlement of the payment for buying and selling is performed through the service provider network 9. [Emphasis added]

Thus, again the service provider is not making the request but the user. The fact that it is through the service does not mean the service provider makes the request/order. Further, the service provider of the claims is separate from the service provider in the reference and therefore is further distinguishable.

Claims 9 and 18 recite similar features. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, claims 1, 9 and 18 are not anticipated by Kametani.

According to one feature of the Kametani patent, there is provided a network system wherein an IP packet according to a service requested by a terminal is sent to a service provider through a plurality of IP networks different from each other in protocol and the service is supplied to the terminal through the

utilization of an IP packet transmitted from the service provider to the plurality of IP networks. Said network system comprising packet exchange means that is provided between the plurality of IP networks and functions to convert the format of the IP packet, to be sent, so as to match the format of the IP network as a send destination. According to this system, packet exchange means is provided so that, in a plurality of IP networks, when an IP packet is sent from a first IP network to a second network, the format of the IP packet to be sent from the first IP network to the second IP network is converted to the format of the second IP network, while when the send direction of the IP packet is opposite, the format of the IP packet is converted to the format of the first IP network.

According to a first aspect of the invention in the present patent application a control system is provided, wherein the control system is arranged to place an order, from a service provider, at a network provider. The control system registers information related to said order and delivers the product that corresponds to the order from the service provider, regardless of the network technology used by the network provider. The invention is based on the idea that a control system receives an order regarding a product, which in the end will be realized as service, from a service provider.

One problem that has to be solved is that since the actors working in the field of telecommunication now takes on

different roles as retailers, service provider; and network providers, their control systems must be able to exchange customer information, service data and network data with the control systems of other actors. It is practically possible for a service provider, with a customer base, to run his or her business with a laptop and a mobile phone, thereby accessing the control system, including registers containing required information, of the invention. Fig. 1 in the present application shows the interface I which enables for a service provider X to exchange information with one, or more, network providers A, B, C and for a single network provider B to exchange information with one, or more, service providers X, Y, Z. Fig. 2 shows a service provider X placing a product type order, (i.e. a telecommunication service order), via the interface I. Fig. 3 shows a control system CS operating in the network of the network provider B, which control system CS is supplemented with functions such as setting of data of elements built according to different network technologies. These functions enable automatic processing of information exchanged via the interface I. Delivery of a certain service can comprise setting of data of elements built according to different network technologies, enabling the control system CS to handle different network technologies NI, N2, N3 for providing the delivery of a product. Billing data used as a basis for invoices regarding the use of an individual service must be identified individually. In the billing data

used as a basis for invoices, involved parts and the actual service delivered should appear. The control system CS should be able to coordinate different network technologies NI, N2, N3 when collecting data for billing.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY

It is submitted that the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 103. It is also submitted that claims 1-18 continue to be allowable. It is further submitted that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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